

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FOR MORE INFORMATION

January 14, 2008 Jim Bond
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DEQ SEEKS COMMENTS ON DRAFT PROSPECT CREEK WATERSHED SEDIMENT TMDLS AND
FRAMEWORK FOR WATER QUALITY RESTORATION

HELENA - The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has released Prospect Creek Watershed sediment TMDLs for public comment.

In simple terms, a total maximum daily load (TMDL) is a plan to attain and maintain water quality standards. The waters currently affected by sediment and sediment related impacts in the Prospect Creek Watershed have been identified and described in the Draft Prospect Creek Watershed Sediment TMDLs and Framework for Water Quality Restoration document. The document also presents a draft plan to attain and maintain water quality standards for those waters of concern.

A public informational meeting will be held on January 31, 2008 in the Sanders County courtroom at the Sanders County Courthouse Building located in Thompson Falls, MT. The address of the Courthouse is 1111 Main Street, Thompson Falls, MT 59873. The meeting will be held from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Agency representatives will provide an open house style forum to provide information about the document, answer questions, and engage in discussion.

The draft document is available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.mt.gov and electronic copies are available at the St. Regis, Superior, and Thompson Falls public libraries, and also at the State Library in Helena, Montana. Public comments will be accepted until 5 p.m., February 13, 2008. Comments may be mailed to Montana Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901, or emailed to TMDLComments@mt.gov.

For more information, document availability or other questions, please contact Jim Bond, MTDEQ, at (406)444-3548, or by e-mail at jabond@mt.gov. The State will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this open house. If you require an accommodation, please contact Angie Hayden (406) 444-6749 no later than 11:00 a.m., January 25th, 2008.

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